

Message Text

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ORIGIN DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00

INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 AID-05 SCS-03 SCA-01 A-01

OPR-02 VO-03 ISO-00 /073 R

DRAFTED BY D/PW:FASIEVERTS:SL

APPROVED BY EA - MR. MILLER

EA/VN - MR. BARTLEY

EUR/EE - MR. ANDREWS

EA/IMS - MR. INGRAHAM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 089904

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, PINS, VS

SUBJECT: AMERICANS AT BAN ME THOUT

REFERENCE: SAIGON 5273 (BEING REPEATED)

1. INFORMATION REFTEL MUCH APPRECIATED. FROM NUMBERS AND DESCRIPTIONS WE ASSUME GROUP OF CAUCASIANS INCLUDES THE THREE MILLERS (SUMMER INST. OF LINGUISTICS); MR. AND MRS. RICHARD PHILLIPS, MRS. ARCHIE MITCHELL, AND THE JOHNSONS (CANADIAN), CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY ALLIANCE; JAY SCARBOROUGH, FORD FOUNDATION FELLOW; AND PAUL STRUHARIK, AID. WE HAVE INFORMED FAMILIES AND PARENT

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ORGANIZATIONS ASKING THAT INFORMATION AND ITS SOURCE BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE.

2. IF MISSION HASN'T ALREADY DONE SO SUGGEST JACK

REVELLE, CMA OFFICIAL IN SAIGON, ALSO BE INFORMED OF THIS INFORMATION. REVELLE IS AT THE INTERNATIONAL PROTESTANT CHURCH, TEL. 91457.

3. SINCE INFORMATION COMES FROM ICCS SOURCE, APPEARS TO US ICCS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE CHANNEL TO TRY TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION ON THESE PEOPLE AND TO ARRANGE THEIR RELEASE. SUGGEST SAIGON DO THIS IF APPROPRIATE, AND ADVISE WHETHER RENEWED APPROACHES ON THIS SUBJECT SHOULD ALSO BE MADE IN WARSAW AND BUDAPEST.

4. FOR JAKARTA: CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY ALLIANCE OFFICIALS HERE ADVISE THAT THEIR ORGANIZATION HAS LARGE CONTINGENT RESIDENT IN INDONESIA, WHICH PLANS TO APPEAL DIRECTLY TO INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES ON THEIR OWN INITIATIVE FOR HELP ON THE BAN ME THOUT CAPTIVES. WE HAVE SUGGESTED THEY KEEP AMEMBASSY JAKARTA INFORMED OF SUCH ACTIONS.

5. FOR BANGKOK: PLEASE INFORM PAUL STRUHARIK'S WIFE, H'LUM, PRESENTLY IN BANGKOK, OF THIS INFORMATION, AND TELL HER PAUL'S PARENTS HAVE BEEN INFORMED.

6. AUSTRALIAN EMBOFF JUST INFORMED DEPTOFF THAT HIS EMBASSY IN SAIGON RECEIVED SIMILAR INFORMATION FROM INDONESIAN AMB. SAMIL, BASED ON INFO FROM RELEASED INDONESIAN OFFICER. AUSTRALIANS HOPE GROUP INCLUDES AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN NAMED WHITLOCK (FNU), A RADIO AUSTRALIA EXPERT WORKING IN THAILAND WHO WAS VISITING BAN ME THOUT. DEPTOFF SHARED REFTEL INFO WITH AUSTRALIAN EMBOFF IN CONFIDENCE. IF WHITLOCK IS PART OF GROUP AND GROUP NUMBERS ONLY TEN CAUCASIANS, THEN ONE CAUCASIAN REMAINS UNACCOUNTED FOR. KISSINGER

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